

Title of Session: ePortfolios
Moderator: Lynne Wolters
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Room: ePortfolio Group

ShaneZ joined the room.

BJB2 waves hi to Shane

BJB2: here for ePortfolios?

ShaneZ: yes, indeed

ShaneZ waves hi to BJB

BJB2: great! Lynne will start in about 10 minutes

ShaneZ: cool, I'm gonna grab some grub

LynneW: None of the four classes I was going to teach had any enrollment. Community college folks told me they have experienced a severe drop in courses not directly related to certificate or degree attainment.

BJB2: yikes!

LynneW: It seems folks are really pulling back and hunkering down.

BJB2: then it seems that more people should be accessing free prof dev opportunities!

LynneW: I agree!!!

DaveKe joined the room.

LynneW: Hi Dave

LynneW: Welcome

DaveKe: hello

DaveKe sits down

BJB2: welcome to this month's ePortfolios discussion!

DaveKe: thank you for inviting us

BJB2: Lynne, do you want to start with introductions?

LynneW: Reminders first

ShaneZ: thanks, I don't know any of you :)

LynneW: You can access the ACTIONS drop down menu

LynneW: upper right of this chat module.

LynneW: Choose larger text and then choose detach

LynneW: This will make reading the text easier and keep the scrolling manageable.

ShaneZ: sweet

LynneW: My name is Lynne Wolters. I am the group facilitator.

LynneW: I come to you from Vancouver, WA USA

ShaneZ: Hi, Lynne

LynneW: I am an ed tech teacher educator.

LynneW: New media consultant

BJB2: I'm a retired teacher in Pennsylvania and a helpdesk volunteer

LynneW: Please introduce yourselves.

ShaneZ: I am a lot of things . . .uhm . . .

DaveKe: My name is Dave Keidel. I am an Structured Learning Coordinator from Morris County School of Technology, in Denville NJ. I monitor 100 high school seniors while on their internships. I have used Tapped In as a tool to hold quarterly meeting and to distribute materials to "distant learners".

ShaneZ: I own and operate Premiere Tutoring Los Angeles in LA.

ShaneZ: www.premieretutoringlosangeles.com

ShaneZ: and am an ED Tech student at Azusa Pacific University

ShaneZ: also a writer and actor

LynneW: Do you reside in LA?

ShaneZ: in Culver City, home and office

LynneW: Ahhh, that was where my Pepperdine offices were.

ShaneZ: on what street?

LynneW: Welcome everyone.

LynneW: Each of these sessions is very different -- always reflecting what the participants are interested in talking about.

LynneW: Dave, it is great to hear you are using TI with your students.

LynneW: Are they using eportfolios to document their learning experiences?

DaveKe: love it.... if I can get everyone to use it

LynneW: What eportfolio topics would you and Shane like to explore?

DaveKe: I don't know anything about online portfolios

ShaneZ: wait, why just me and Dave?

DaveKe: start from the beginning

LynneW: Shane, BJ is a regular here, as is Jeff

LynneW: So, let's start with the beginning.

ShaneZ: gotcha

LynneW: Why use eportfolios?

LynneW: Ideas?

ShaneZ: Well . . .

DaveKe: It works anywhere in the world and takes up less space?

ShaneZ: it is a comprehensive way to organize all "distance" materials.

LynneW: yes and yes

LynneW: there is more....

ShaneZ: it's like keeping things in a binder. But not in a binder.

LynneW smiles

LynneW likes word pictures

ShaneZ: It allow others to see what you're doing in an organized way.

DaveKe: and it fits on the flash drive in you pocket

LynneW: It certainly can!

LynneW: Eportfolios are being used for many different reasons.

LynneW: The over arching reason is as an authentic means of assessment of student learning.

ShaneZ: which, in English, translates to . . .

ShaneZ smiles

LynneW: It is also commonly used as documentation of learned skills to support job attainment, skills certification, etc.

LynneW: Shane assessment is how we determine how successful a student has been in capturing the "material covered".

LynneW: Authentic assessment uses hands-on, direct application

ShaneZ: So, it helps you assess how kids are learning. And it keeps stuff in order for job-seekers, etc.

LynneW: Another means for a student to demonstrate mastery other than testing.

LynneW: Yes

ShaneZ: cool

LynneW: Eportfolios are NOT a repository of everything a student has completed.

LynneW: Eportfolios include carefully selected artifacts.

ShaneZ: makes sense. That would be all the stuff kids stuff in their desks. This is everything kids put in their "binders."

BJB2 . o O (eportfolios don't just have to be for students either...they should reflect prof development and lifelong learning)

LynneW: Teachers, school districts, licensing agencies may determine what those artifacts will/should be.

LynneW: Often, students work with their teachers to decide together what artifacts will be included. Student choice and input is very important.

ShaneZ: gotcha, BJB

LynneW: Yes BJ

LynneW: Reflection is an important element of eportfolios.

LynneW: Reflection can be a dance captured on video, an audio narrative in the student's own voice

LynneW: A poem, a drawing, a song

ShaneZ: neat

LynneW: It can also be a report

BJB2 . o O (Learning from Lyrics has a lot of great ideas for stuff to put in a portfolio)

LynneW: Any ideas why eportfolios are not an electronic file drawer of everything.

ShaneZ: because filed stuff never gets looked at

BJB2: and no one has the time to look at mountains of stuff

LynneW: Maybe but not what I was prompting for...

LynneW: what else??

LynneW: Yes BJ

LynneW: Dave??? are you with us???

BJB2: and the items may not reflect learning taking place

LynneW: YES

LynneW: BJ gets the gold star

ShaneZ: Dave fell asleep!

BJB2 pokes Dave

ShaneZ: sweet, BJ!

ShaneZ: that makes sense, what you're saying. I'm tracking.

DaveKe: deep in thought here

LynneW: Each artifact should be treated as a treasured, valuable item.

LynneW: An expression of learning, frustration, creativity, growth, etc.

LynneW: Numerous and inconsequential items make the jewels hard to appreciate.

LynneW: E-portfolios can easily be a non-linear presentation and/or they can be ordered.

LynneW: Depends on the tools used and how the eportfolio is produced.

LynneW: Open source software hosted by district, standard documents converted to .pdf

LynneW: Web 2.0 tools

LynneW: Web sites, blogs, wikis

ShaneZ: so you can be quite creative, then.

LynneW: Absolutely

ShaneZ: question.

LynneW: Yes

ShaneZ: If an eportfolio can contain all of these items . . .

ShaneZ: that are not all the same format . . .

ShaneZ: or not all contained in the same way . . .

LynneW: Let me clarify

ShaneZ: where is an eportfolio stored?

LynneW: Thank you for pointing out.

LynneW: a blog, a wiki, a website, an ordered collection of files

LynneW: Any of these and more contain and hold the eportfolios

ShaneZ: so a wiki contains an eport, or a blog, etc.

LynneW: This is a decision made by districts, buildings, content teams, and individual teachers.

LynneW: Perhaps. I was talking about the wiki itself being the eportfolio.

ShaneZ: hm.

LynneW: You can upload files and media to wikis.

ShaneZ: oh, right.

ShaneZ: making sense.

LynneW: Using a wiki might be a way to go so that feedback can be given via peers and teachers.

ShaneZ: so the wiki is the actual "binder" and the files are the material contained within, whether uploaded, what have you.

LynneW: Teachers who want to implement eportfolios need to do a lot of planning.

LynneW: You must be clear why, how, and for how long students create eportfolios.

LynneW: In your particular circumstance.

LynneW: Also, need to be clear about who "owns" the work.

LynneW: Yes Shane

ShaneZ: right

LynneW: Then, you need to give students enough structure to understand the goal and enough room within that structure to be creative.

LynneW: Also, a teacher should create their assessment tools in advance.

LynneW: Students should be able to see what the expectations are and use the rubric as a tool for meeting those requirements/expectations.

ShaneZ: gotcha

LynneW: Shane/Dave, have either of you seen an eportfolio?

DaveKe: no

ShaneZ: yes

LynneW: B J - can you add to the discussion while I gather some links?

DaveKe: that's why I'm here. I require portfolios for each student and am looking for others ways to get them other than 3 ring binders

LynneW: Great. I'll BRB

ShaneZ: oh, good call, Dave.

BJB2: Lynne has placed some resources in this group room...

LynneW: I have posted an image on the desktop of this group room. It illustrates the various eportfolio stages. You might want to take a look at that.

ShaneZ: Dave, do all your students have computer access?

BJB2: might be a good idea to join this group so you can come back easily and look around

DaveKe: Yes, or they should for my meetings. I have students that I don't really see because they are attending the local Community College as high school seniors

ShaneZ: oh, ok

LynneW: Dr. Helen Barrett is considered the national expert on eportfolios. Her site is here <http://electronicportfolios.org/>

LynneW: Go check out her site and visit resources under "LINKS" in this group room.

LynneW: I'll hang out here until 4:30 to respond to questions or observations.

BJB2: Dave, have you joined this group?

DaveKe: no

DaveKe: still learning

BJB2: Lynne usually posts reminders of upcoming discussions...

BJB2: if you join the group you'll get that reminder

DaveKe: if this will work for me and be more work than I want or need

BJB2 nods.

BJB2: you don't have to buy into the whole package right from the gitgo...

DaveKe: I'm a bit overwhelmed right now, but might pursue it more for next year's class once I catch my breath over the summer

BJB2: start small with one electronic resource

LynneW: Dave, you can have any entry/exit point you want to design.

LynneW: Teachers generally scale up as they go along.

LynneW: Over years

DaveKe: I'm beating the kids over the head just to get them to do a simple Tapped In meeting

LynneW: You can begin by designing requirements for artifacts. They may still be paper or they may be electronic - just not organized.

DaveKe: eportfolios may kill me

DaveKe: I have a strong heart though

LynneW: The trick is getting them to buy in and generally that means create a "fun" factor.

LynneW: OF COURSE, I'm preaching to the choir.

DaveKe: mostly kids like the fun factor of Tapped In

LynneW: You can have guest speakers in TI

LynneW: You can have your students collaborate with students from another state or country.

LynneW: <http://electronicportfolios.org/web20portfolios.html> is another Dr. Barrett resource

BJB2: and there are other resources under featured items in this group room

ShaneZ: I'm going to bookmark this

LynneW: Great

LynneW: This group room is open 24/7 and there are many resources posted under LINKS. You are welcome to come in any time.

ShaneZ: fantastic, this is a real help

LynneW: Just email me if you are looking for something in particular that you can't find.

BJB2: . o O (and if you join the group you will get the monthly reminders that Lynne posts about meetings)

LynneW: Thanks BJ.

ShaneZ: great. I'm looking at the material now from the link.

LynneW: I would be interested in knowing if either of you followed up and/or have you continue with us each month.

ShaneZ: you mean, from this point on?

LynneW: Dave, have I met any of your expectations for today's session?

LynneW: Yes

DaveKe: maybe. not sure if this is for me right now

LynneW: I offer this session once each month.

BJB2: Heck, Dave, I attend these sessions every month and look what I've accomplished....I have a gold star from Lynne ;-)

ShaneZ: I've done one eportfolio for my introductory ED Tech course, but this is certainly another level.

ShaneZ: It will be a great resource for me and I will try to follow up.

LynneW: Dave, what is your primary motivation for considering eportfolios?

LynneW: Shane, you can email me any time.

DaveKe: better built portfolios for my kids

LynneW: Would you have to teach them how to produce artifacts?

DaveKe: ?

LynneW: I assume they are proficient with word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, etc.

DaveKe: yes

DaveKe: I assume

LynneW: I started out having my students simply collect their files and put them in a single folder on a disk.

LynneW: Then, we started creating Word web pages to create a title page, contents with links, etc.

LynneW: It happens fairly organically.

LynneW: There are free online tutorials available that can help.

LynneW: That way it isn't all on you.

DaveKe: ok

LynneW: That process evolved into creating blogs and wikis as the presentation / repository tool for their eportfolios.

LynneW: For me, that was a 5-year process.

LynneW: Frankly, I learned a great deal about evaluating what you assign.

LynneW: I made a lot of work for myself in the beginning.

LynneW: Shane any questions?

ShaneZ: nope, I think that's it.

DaveKe: I'm at my saturation point now. Brain's on overload. I smell smoke.

ShaneZ: I learned a lot

DaveKe: thank you

BJB2: Lynne leads a Web 2.0 discussion at the hour, Shane

ShaneZ blows on Dave's head

BJB2 dumps a pot of cold water on Dave

ShaneZ: right, I saw that.

LynneW: Thank you both for participating today. At 5pm I will be facilitating the Web 2.0 Tools for Schools special interest group.

LynneW: We meet in that group room.

DaveKe: ok

LynneW: You are most welcome to join us if you wish.

DaveKe: bye

BJB2: Thanks, Lynne. Always something new to learn!

LynneW: Bye

ShaneZ: would love to, but I have a meeting before my next Tapped In appt.

ShaneZ: bye, Dave,

DaveKe left the room.

ShaneZ: thanks for the resources, Lynne.

LynneW: My pleasure.

LynneW: Nice to meet you Shane.

ShaneZ: nice to meet you, too :)

ShaneZ: bye, for now

LynneW: Bye